

# RICHLAND



# PARISH

*“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”*

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



**RICHLAND  
PARISH**

# Richland Parish

## **Rhymes Memorial Library/Visitors Center**

815 Louisa  
P.O. Box 522  
Rayville, LA 71269  
318-728-4127

## **Regional Office of Public Health**

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## **History<sup>1</sup>**

Established on September 29, 1868, Richland Parish takes its name from the extreme fertility of the soil. Certain sections of land now in Richland Parish were included in the land grants of Baron de Bastrop de Maison Rouge, whose obligation it was to bring settlers into the area. These lands in Richland marked the eastern extremity of Batstrop's grant of over a million acres which had made him the largest property holder in the Louisiana Territory at one time.



## **Culture and Recreation<sup>3</sup>**

A source of great pride for Richland Parish as the state's oldest parish library, Rhymes Memorial remained a functioning library from 1929 until 1971. Rhymes was saved from destruction in 1989 and placed on the National Registry of Historical Places. Renovation was completed in 1991 and the building now serves as a meeting/reception hall. It is also a secured display area for major art and historical exhibits and a promotional display hall for local artists and artisans. In addition to Rhymes Memorial Library, the area also tours of historic homes.

**Parish Seat<sup>1</sup>** ..... Rayville<sup>1</sup>

**Major Cities** (over 5,000 population)<sup>2</sup>

None

## **Parish Population<sup>2</sup>**

1990 ..... 20,629

1997 (estimate) ..... 20,421

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)<sup>6</sup>

White ..... 61%

African American ..... 38%

Other ..... 0%

Male ..... 47%

Female ..... 53%

Population age 0-4 ..... 7%

Populations age 65 & over ..... 16%

## **Geography and Statistics<sup>2</sup>**

Average elevation ..... 81 ft.

Land area in square miles ..... 558.5

Water area in square miles<sup>4</sup> ..... 6.1



## Climate<sup>2</sup>

Average temperatures

Annual .....	66°
January .....	49°
July .....	89°
Annual average rainfall .....	54 in.

## Labor Force (1995)<sup>1</sup>

Civilian .....	8,190
Employed .....	7,280
Unemployed .....	910
Unemployment .....	11.1%

## Agriculture<sup>1</sup>

Cotton and timber.

## Colleges/Universities<sup>2</sup>

(within one hour commute)

Louisiana Tech University, Ruston

Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe

Public Libraries<sup>5</sup> ..... 3

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Louisiana Almanac. 1997. Louisiana Almanac, Pelican Press. Gretna, LA
- <sup>2</sup> Louisiana Department of Economic Development. 1999. Louisiana Overview. keyword: overview <http://lled.state.la.us>
- <sup>3</sup> Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- <sup>4</sup> Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- <sup>5</sup> State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>
- <sup>6</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>

## Educational Attainment (1990)<sup>7</sup>

Less than 5th grade	8.1%
High school graduate or higher	52.0%
Some college or higher	24.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	10.7%

## Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees<sup>2</sup>

<b>Private Employers</b>	
Tifton Aluminum Company (Aluminum Alloy)	425
Williamson-Dickie (Pants)	200
Cotton Classing Office (Grade Cotton)	150 (Seasonal)
<b>Public Employers</b>	
Richland Parish School Board (Education)	595
Richardson Medical Center (Medical)	200
Richland Parish Hospital (Medical)	126

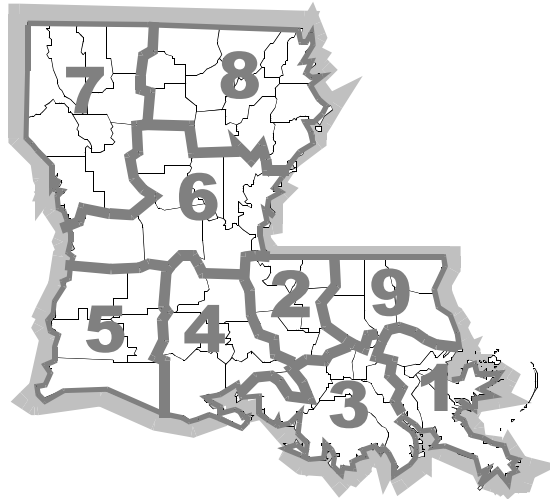
## Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) <sup>7</sup>	30.9%
Children under age 18 in poverty <sup>7</sup>	43.7%
Per capita income (1996) <sup>8</sup>	\$15,652



**RICHLAND  
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**Louisiana Administrative Regions -  
Department of Health and Hospitals**



**Region 1**

Jefferson  
Orleans  
Plaquemines  
St. Bernard

**Region 2**

Ascension  
East Baton Rouge  
East Feliciana  
Iberville  
Pointe Coupee  
West Baton Rouge  
West Feliciana

**Region 3**

Assumption  
Lafourche  
St. Charles  
St. James  
St. John  
St. Mary  
Terrebonne

**Region 4**

Acadia  
Evangeline  
Iberia  
Lafayette  
St. Landry  
St. Martin  
Vermilion

**Region 5**

Allen  
Beauregard  
Calcasieu  
Cameron  
Jefferson Davis

**Region 6**

Avoyelles  
Catahoula  
Concordia  
Grant  
LaSalle  
Rapides  
Vernon  
Winn

**Region 7**

Bienville  
Bossier  
Caddo  
Claiborne  
DeSoto  
Natchitoches  
Red River  
Sabine  
Webster

**Region 8**

Caldwell  
East Carroll  
Franklin  
Jackson  
Lincoln  
Madison  
Morehouse  
Ouachita  
Richland  
Tensas  
Union  
West Carroll

**Region 9**

Livingston  
St. Helena  
St. Tammany  
Tangipahoa  
Washington